GOVERNMENT OF ANDHRA PRADESH
ABSTRACT

Public Services - Forest Department - Disciplinary action against Sri G. Chittanna, Forest Range Officer (Retd), Range No.VI, Paderu of Paderu Division, Visakhapatnam Circle- Departmental Proceedings under Rule 20 of APCS (CCA) Rules, 1991 – Article of charges issued - COI Findings received – Provisional decision to recover an amount of Rs.21,499/- Show-Cause-Notice issued – Explanation not received- Concurrence of the Commission – Final Orders – Issued.

ENVIRONMENT, FORESTS, SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY (SEC.III) DEPARTMENT

G.O.MS.No. 14 Dated: 08-02-2017

Read the following:

1) From the Prl. CCF, Lr.Ref.No.25557/2005/PXA-3, Dt:21.03.2008.
2) G.O.Rt.No. 100 EFS& T (For- IV) dt.19.2.2009
3) G.A. (COI-AS) Department, D.O. Lr.No. 147/COI-AS/2012, dt:20.04.2013.
4) PCCF Rc.No.13424/2012/vig-3 (ii) dt.12.9.2014(Final Notice).
5) Govt.Memo.No.6396/For.IV/A1/2006, dt:08.10.2015.
6) From the DFO, Paderu, Lr.Rc.No.2744/2005/E(P3), dt:16.7.2016.
7. From Secretary. APPSC Lr No.1058/RT-I/1/2010, dt:16-8-2010.

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ORDER:

In the reference 1st read above, the Principal Chief Conservator of Forests has informed that an Article of Charge was issued to Sri G. Chittanna, Forest Section Officer (Retd.), Range No.VI, Paderu of Paderu Division, Visakhapatnam Circle in Divisional Forest Officer Paderu, Ref.No.2744/2005/E, dt:12-03-2007, for the excess expenditure in the works executed during 2003-04 under NABARD, RVP & APCFM schemes, as pointed out by the Audit Party on the following count:-

Article:- "That he while working as Forest Section Officer, Range No.VI, Paderu in Paderu Division, shown gross negligence in discharging his legitimate duty and shown lack of devotion to duty and submitted the estimates with excess rate and allowed the VSS members to execute the works during 2003-04 without following the Prl.CCF's circular No.3/2002 and Special Condition No.8 of FSR-2003-04 for the earth works in respect of works under NABARD-VIII, IX, R.V.P. Scheme and responsible for recording in M.Books with excess rate resulting in payment of excess expenditure of Rs.2,74,025/- and thereby caused a loss to a tune of Rs.2,74,025/- to the states exchequer. Hence the charge.

2. The Charged Officer Sri G.Chittanna, Forest Range Officer (retd), has acknowledged the receipt of Article of Charge on 18.10.2007. The Government vide reference 2nd read above, appointed Dr. Subhrendu Bhattacharya, IAS, Commissioner of Inquiries to enquire into the charges framed against (49) charged officers including Sri G. Chittanna, Forest Section Officer (Retd). Subsequently, the Govt. ordered change of the Inquiry Officer, by entrusting the enquiry to other COIs vide G.O.Rt.No.74 EFS&T (For-IV) dt:17.2.2012 and G.O.Rt.No.166 EFS&T (For-IV) dt:07.04.2012.

3. The Commissioner of Inquiries submitted his findings vide reference 3rd read above, in which he concluded that the charge framed against the Charged Officer was not proved. The findings of the Commissioner of Inquiries were not agreed by the

Principal Chief Conservator of Forests. Hence the disagreement factors along with findings were communicated to Sri G. Chittanna, Forest Section Officer (Retd). in PCCF's Ref. No. 13424/2012/Vig-3 (ii) dt.12.9.2014, proposing recovery of Rs 21,499/- from Sri G. Chittanna, Forest Section Officer (Retd), vide reference 4th read above.

4. After careful examination of the matter, with reference to the findings of the Commissioner of Inquiries, remarks of the Prl. Chief Conservator of Forests, and material made available, Government have observed that the charge framed against the Charged Officer is held proved and provisionally decided to recover excess expenditure (i.e. Rs.21499/-) from Sri G. Chittanna, Forest Section Officer (Retd), under Rule 9 of A.P. Revised Pension Rules, 1980.

5. Accordingly a Show-Cause-Notice was issued to the retired officer vide reference 5th read above. The DFO, Paderu, vide reference 6th read above cited, has informed that the Show-Cause-Notice was communicated to the charged officer and obtained his dated acknowledgement. The charged officer did not submit his further defense statement till date to the Show-Cause-Notice. Moreover, time for offering his further defense if any was also over. It is presumed that the concerned does not have new facts.

6. Government, after careful examination of the matter hereby order to recover excess expenditure (i.e. Rs.21,499/-) from Sri G. Chittanna, Forest Section Officer (Retd), under Rule 9 of A.P. Revised Pension Rules, 1980.

7. The Principal Chief Conservator of Forests is requested to take action accordingly.

(BY ORDER AND IN THE NAME OF THE GOVERNOR OF ANDHRA PRADESH)

G ANANTHA RAMU
PRINCIPAL SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT

To
The Individual (through Principal Chief Conservator of Forests).
The Principal Chief Conservator of Forests, Head of Forest Force. Andhra Pradesh, Guntur.
The Director General, V&E Department, VI Floor, BRK Buildings, Hyderabad.
The Accountant General (A&E) A.P., Hyderabad.
The Director of Treasuries & Accounts, Ibrahimpatnam, A.P.
The Secretary, A.P. Public Service Commission, Hyderabad(with ref. to Lr.110/DC&C/2/2017, dt:27-01-2017).
Sf/Sc.

//FORWARDED :: BY ORDER//

SECTION OFFICER